

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY **CONFIDENTIAL** REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS CD NO.

COUNTRY COMMUNIST CHINA

DATE OF INFORMATION 1-14 NOV 1951

SUBJECT INDICATIONS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL VULNERABILITIES

HOW PUBLISHED

ILLEGIB

DATE DIST 18 DECEMBER 1951

WHERE PUBLISHED

NO. OF PAGES 11

DATE PUBLISHED

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE

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SOURCE Monitored Broadcasts

CPW Report No. 1 - COMMUNIST CHINA *

(1 - 14 November 1951)

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* This is the first of a series of reports of Chinese domestic broadcasts which indicate frictions or vulnerabilities in the Chinese People's Republic. The reports will be issued on a regular basis and will parallel the series of CPW reports on the USSR.

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SUMMARY

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There are evidences of the continuing drive to substitute Soviet for American influences--although Western influence is to be adapted in the medical field--and there are indications of continuing difficulties encountered in gearing the economy to the demands of the revolutionary state. There are insistent appeals for more production and greater austerity and there are frequent reports of inflation and shortages. Production and management techniques are said to be inadequate, peasants do not appreciate the ideological framework of the land reform--they stop working when they have produced their quotas--cadres are not meeting their obligation to spread knowledge about land reform principles. It is evident that the counter-revolutionaries are still a problem. In the field of social welfare, there are reports of failure to comply with marriage laws, of professors whose antipathy for Americans is not strong enough. There are repeated references to strengthened control from Peking and there are equally frequent references to the lack of popular understanding of the revolution and the obligations and advantages it brings. Although these difficulties are reported from most of China, the Dairen-Port Arthur region appears with regularity as an area where violations of one kind or another occur.

THE DEBT TO THE USSR

Communist China's radios exerted a special effort in hailing the Soviet October Revolution Anniversary. There were many programs entirely devoted to details of celebrations within China, and commentators enthusiastically praised the aid and guidance offered by the Soviet people in China's revolution. The high point was reached on 7 November when the entire body of communists and combatants of the People's Volunteers expressed their desire to join the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association. The People's Liberation Army has previously reported its mass admission to membership. Peking broadcast glowing reminders of the accomplishments and superior culture of the USSR, and the customary delineations of the depravity and evil intentions of imperialist America.

The principal burden in the anniversary celebrations was borne by the SSFA, branch offices took the lead in organizing celebrations outside of the capital, and demonstrated the spread of pro-Soviet sentiments in widely scattered areas of the hinterlands. As an example, Shensi Province was reported to have established 520 branch organizations within the last year at Ankang, Saito, Yulin, Yenan, Weinan, Hsienyang, Paochi and Sangle, as well as in 92 hsien and one municipality, creating thus "a powerful army of 120,000 members." The South Kiangsu SSFA extended its membership to 122,927 members during the past year and published 6,120 booklets, 19,750 leaflets and 2,600 books. In the Dairen-Port Arthur area, according to the Dairen radio, the SSFA during the year "aroused an ardent love for the USSR." In Central-South China, 16 branches, 163 hsien associations and 2,333 branch stations were established, including in all 1,000,000 members.

Organization of SSFA units among minority groups was also reported, especially from Yunnan, where groups were organized in Piliang, Puchan and Mengtsu Districts. In Piliang, 12 units were established including members of 10 national minorities. The special goal of these groups was described as follows:

To point out the criminal acts of the imperialists committed in various localities over Yunnan and to make the people of the various minorities more conscious of the fact that the American imperialist is our country's deadly enemy, while the older brother, Soviet Russia, is our country's good friend. (Peking, numeral code, 10 Nov.)

A Mukden broadcast credited Soviet engineers with perfect construction on the Chengtu-Chungking railway and in the building of three bridges in the Kiamusze area. Soviet technicians were also credited with introducing methods which enabled locomotives in the Tsitsihar area to set new records. Foochow reported the determination of workers to "study the progressive production of the USSR," and the introduction of high-speed cutting and chiseling methods at the Fushun Machine Works, Mukden, was ascribed to Soviet experts. According to a numeral code transmission from Peking, the cotton production record of Chu Yao-li in Shansi was possible only because he followed Soviet techniques on thick planting. Soviet expert Pantalenko helped the Chinese eradicate hoof-and-mouth disease, and Russian expert Kuznetsov is directing production of new and improved animal-drawn planting machines at the North China Agriculture Machines Factory. The Russian Loshenko introduced the use of the airplane to destroy locusts.

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The only mention of the Soviet Army came in a Nanking speech by Vice Commander Su Yu of the East China Military Area, who declared:

We must seriously study Soviet advanced military science, study the Soviet Army and people--their patriotic international spirit for consolidation of peace. (Shanghai, East China Regional, 7 Nov.)

These expressions of thanks to and affection for the Soviet Union are intermingled, however, with indications that a strong anti-Soviet bias still exists in many areas. The frequently reported exhortations to instruct oneself in the true meaning of Soviet aid to China, the appraisals which preceded the announced mass participation of the PLA and People's Volunteer forces in the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association, and the constant reminders that the Soviet Union is the "best friend of China" serve to intimate the need for further indoctrination. Furthermore, there are reports of the initial distrust with which Soviet experts have been greeted, a situation that was remedied at the Shihchingshan Power Plant when the workers became convinced of the "good will and superior knowledge" of the Soviet specialists.

PRODUCTION AND AUSTERITY

Official Revelations: Official speeches at the Third Session of the First National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference on 31 October (transmitted in numeral code to the press 4 and 7 Nov.) are particularly revealing concerning the national drive for increased production and austerity. All officials claimed tremendous progress in the campaign, but at the same time revealed serious handicaps and shortcomings.

Li Fu-shun, of the Committee of Finance and Economics of the Government Administrative Council, frankly stated that some industries, especially those concerned with the production of cast-iron and coal, have lagged behind, and "will have to be actively rehabilitated." He predicted that by the end of the year cast-iron production might reach 78 percent of the highest point prior to World War II, while coal production could reach 88 percent. He also complained that the productive capacity of the country is not being fully utilized:

In the field of heavy industry, for instance, the rate of utilization of electricity generating equipment throughout the country averaged only up to 35 percent this year, while only 55 percent of mechanical industrial equipment was utilized. (Peking, numeral code, 4 Nov.)

Shortages and Inflation: Minister of Trade Yeh Chi-chuang reported a "basic stability in trade beneficial to the development of industry and commerce as well as the people's livelihood." But he also revealed that the wholesale price index on 25 October was 114.8, with 100 at the end of 1950 as a base, an increase of 14.8 in less than 10 months. In addition, he added:

The price and fluctuation of certain industrial products this year exceeded the general price index. Some of the increases were inevitable, but some were unreasonable. It is hoped that public and private enterprise will in the future do their best to stop the recurrence of such phenomena. ... In spite of the shortage of raw materials, the sale of cotton piece goods was increased by 16 percent this summer. Certain industrial products such as cotton yarn, printed cotton cloth and knitted goods, certain famous handicraft goods such as Hangchow scissors, umbrellas and mats, and even some formerly unsalable items, have enjoyed a good market, with demand over supply. (Peking, numeral code, 4 Nov.)

Similar warnings of shortages were heard from Liang Hsi:

Lumber cutting should not be carried to excess in a country such as ours, which has so few forests. However, to meet the needs of the factories, mines, communications, and all construction enterprises, the lumber to be cut during the current year is inadequate to meet the demands. The shortage of lumber is increasingly felt daily as the New China makes strides daily in construction. It is anticipated that in 1952 there will be a greater demand for lumber for public use by the entire nation. Supply cannot meet the demand. In another three years the demand for lumber for public use will be far greater. Because of this, lumber constitutes a problem in China. (Peking, numeral code, 7 Nov.)

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There are other reports of inflationary pressures and shortages. A Mukden broadcast says the price of Four Gentlemen brand cloth has been reduced from 345,000 to 332,000 yuan per bolt since the beginning of the month, and that "most cloth merchants declared they would continue to lower the price so as to make it still closer to the official quotation." A meeting of authorities is scheduled to discuss price stabilization. Placing the blame on the State Trading Organization of the Suining Special Administrative Area, a Chungking broadcast complains that in September and October market quotations of foodstuffs were higher than official rates in Santai and Pengchi, north Szechwan, while prices of cloth were too high in Anyueh and Loehih. Peasants were forced to wait for days to sell their cotton, and then were unable to "find places to buy foodstuffs and other necessities."

A further picture of problems in the cotton industry is given by Peking in a transmission for the press.

In the middle part of September, due to an increase in the price of native cloth and cotton imposed by a number of public and private units at Nanyang and Huaiyang, the market price of cotton was almost double the official price. The People's Government immediately strengthened its controls, and the official and market prices became equal again. In the latter part of September there was a discrepancy of 14 percent between the official and market price of cotton at Chengchou, the largest cotton center in Honan. However, the prices became equalized again in the latter part of October after the People's Government assisted private cotton dealers in carrying out joint purchases. (Peking, numeral code, 11 Nov.)

Construction Problems: Production problems of a slightly different nature were admitted by Minister of Railways Teng Tai-yuan:

Insofar as the construction of new lines is concerned, both in planning and technique, and in construction and organization, this Ministry itself still has some shortcomings. We still are lacking in experience, accentuated by a shortage of engineering and technical personnel. Nowhere can we meet the urgent need for the construction of new lines. When planning is taken care of, construction is thereby compromised, and vice versa. We have tried to design and also construct, and as a result both have been compromised. We also have tried the contracting system derived from the past, with the result that there have been signs of a feudalistic exploitation of the workers on the one hand, and of makeshift work and theft of materials from the State on the other. In the process of construction numerous cases of such makeshift work have occurred. (Peking, numeral code, 4 Nov.)

The difficulties described by Teng have arisen in other industries, judging from regional reports. Chungking revealed "continuous mistakes" in the State-operated foodstuffs company of Chingchuan Hsien because "the political education of the cadres was neglected." Cadres reduced prices of foodstuffs without permission, and, by the end of September, only 20,000 catties of foodstuffs had been paid for; farmers' losses through "careless purchase" were heavy. In addition, about 12,000 catties of foodstuffs rotted in the warehouses because of "faulty storage." The water-cooling tower of the Nanchang Power Plant has been "leaking ever since it was constructed." In construction of the Kuangyuan Colliery not enough care was exercised in calculating the strength of material.

Inventory Revelations: Astounding errors were discovered in the course of inventory taking. At Chungking Factory No. 101 it was discovered that in one month more than 4.4 billion yuan worth of steel and iron was not registered in the books. Unregistered equipment sufficient for an entire factory was discovered at Factory No. 1 of the Chihkung branch, of the New China Salt Factory. At the Yunnan Machine Factory new machines were found, badly-rusted, in the midst of scrap.

Labor-capital relations are not satisfactory in medium and small enterprises in Southwest China. Factory owners at Neichiang deceived the workers under the guise of organizing a capital-labor cooperative. Some factories employ feudal methods to control apprentices.

Goals and Quotas: The Mukden radio reported that the Liaoyang Hemp Bag Company, the Liaotung Paper Mill, and other factories had not achieved their production goals, while by the end of September only 91 percent of the increased production and austerity plan had been reached in that area. A Peking broadcast said the Northeast had

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succeeded in saving only 70 percent of the 2 million-ton food quota. Failures in the area are further illustrated by the fact that on 12 November both the Mukden and Dairen radios devoted entire news broadcasts to rallies for the increased production and austerity drive.

Hangchow reports that the Hangchow Committee of the China Textile Union has called on factories to complete their cotton yarn and cloth manufacture targets, but complains of lethargy and extravagance in several hsiang of Cheng Hsien, in Wukuo village, for instance where corrections are being made. Two peasants of Cheng Hsien, Yueh Te-yung and Yueh Te-piao, spent all their savings on cigarettes, wine and meat, and used up their harvest of 20 piculs of rice in a short time. Thus they were unable to pay their agricultural tax. They even borrowed "from other peasants to enjoy life." Peasants in a number of shu used their money to buy meat and maintain a rural theatrical troupe. The cadres in these areas were severely criticized, and their "work taken over by upper levels."

The Hangchow radio further reports that "under the vigorous assistance of the Chekiang People's Government" the autumn harvest is nearly complete, and has been carried out enthusiastically "except in the Chiahsing district." It complains that "some peasants in various localities are still unwilling to produce more because they think that more production means a greater contribution to the State."

Several instances of corruption and tax evasion are noted. Dairen announces that Lin Tsun-mao of Taipailou is to be punished by the tax authorities for illegal use of the consumption tax fund. Chungking says four enterprises in west Szechwan scattered their capital to avoid taxes. Severe penalties are enforced. According to Wuhan, the Kiangsi Provincial People's Court sentenced Liu Shih-ti and Wen Hui to death and 58 others to prison for corruption in the Nanchang Municipal People's Government Tax Bureau. The Changsha Municipal Court sentenced Chou Chih-wen to death and 15 others to prison on similar charges.

An item revealing the inner workings of the drive to conserve material is contained in a numeral code transmission to the press. Three match factories, Jungchang, Chengfeng and Liming, in September saved 1,259 kilograms of potassium chlorate and 58,519 lots of match sticks. Later in the transmission an explanation is found.

The Great China Match Company has properly reduced the output of the more expensive and beautiful brands of matches and is using a greater amount of raw material for increasing production of the lower priced Shanghai brand matches, which the peasants are glad to use. (Feking, numeral code, 12 Nov.)

RESIST-AMERICA, AID-KOREA DONATIONS

Donation drives for the purchase of planes and other implements of war to be used in Korea have not always produced the desired results, various regional radio reports reveal.

A Chinchow broadcast announces that up to 25 October donations had reached 61 percent of the quota. However, another Chinchow transmission complained that in Changpei Hsien only 40 percent of the funds for purchase of one fighter plane had been donated by 4 November. Changpin Hsien also had collected only 40 percent of the donations needed, but was "preparing to adopt a new plan for strengthening the donation campaign." In the Northeast generally, good results were claimed, but it was explained that "in the areas where publicity was carried out systematically remarkable results have been achieved, whereas the results were very poor in the areas where the publicity was not handled systematically."

Wuhai reported that in south Kiangsu the people had already subscribed 14 billion yuan, 67 percent of the quota. Peking announced that the entire nation had reached 80 percent of the quota. A Hangchow broadcast said that complacency was noted among the masses and some cadres in Tunglu Hsien: after the quota was reached further work on the drive stopped, a situation needing revision. People of the Lisui Special Administrative Area donated 83 percent of their quota, but the movement was carried out "very irregularly," and in 32 percent of the area "was not carried out at all."

The most discouraging results, however, were reported by the Chungking radio, which complained that some Yunnan hsiangs "do not even understand the meaning of Resist-America, Aid-Korea." The cadres are blamed, and their neglect is said to have made "patriotic pacts impractical." "The pledged amounts of the donations are

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more than the people can afford." The Resist-America, Aid-Korea branch office in Chungking has called a cadre meeting to intensify the work.

SOCIAL REFORMS

New Marriage Law: The marriage law promulgated on 30 April suddenly receives attention. The sudden stress suggests that violations of the reform decrees are widespread.

On 8 November the Committee on People's Supervision of the Government Administrative Council of the Central People's Government issued a directive to the People's Supervision Committees of all levels in connection with "supervision and scrutiny in implementation of the marriage law." The directive remarks that some cadres show evidence of feudalistic thinking and fail to offer any assistance to those seeking freedom of marriage. Some cadres have "even interfered, and sabotaged this struggle by direct participation. Cases of homicide and suicide on the part of women were reported in a number of districts, especially the rural districts."

Peking radio started disseminating propaganda on the subject even before the directive, and broadcasts from regional transmitters at Chinchow, Dairen, Foochow, Yangchow, Sian, Wuhsi, Chungking, Tsinan, Hangchow and Wuhan, indicate that a nationwide drive to enforce the reforms is in progress.

Most of the comment falls into two categories: (1) threats of investigation and punishment for violations; and (2) attempts to popularize the regulations. The organization of inspection groups is reported from Sian, Foochow, Dairen, Hangchow, Wuhsi and Wuhan. Chungking reports inspections, and says that "a number of criminals in north and west Szechwan have been punished according to the marriage law for maltreating and endangering the lives of women. However, it is still common to see people interfering in the lives of others." Dairen reports that in order to enforce the law and at the same time give publicity to its provisions, the People's Courts of Dairen-Port Arthur and of Chin Hsien have held public trials of "criminals guilty of having violated the marriage law." Chinchow announces that a Harbin investigatory team uncovered violations. Hangchow reports violations at Chungte.

Setting the tone for propagandizing the marriage law, Peking, in a numeral code transmission to the press, quotes Tseng Mou-pu of Chungking as declaring that the marriage law "rescued his entire family." Yangchow reports a public "new style marriage" by two peasants of Paoying. Tsinan tells how the cadres in one hsiang used the occasion of a marriage to give publicity to the law. Chinchow gives a personal account by a girl liberated through the regulation.

More detailed explanations of possible propaganda methods appear in the directive by the People's Supervision Committee:

In Anhui Chu of Hsinfeng Hsien, Kiangsi Province, 55 couples of young men and women were married en masse at the chu government auditorium. When local residents came to attend the ceremony, responsible persons of the chu government publicized the marriage law, while the bridegrooms and brides also voluntarily described the progress of their love-making. This kind of publicity is very effective.

Huangkang, Hsishui and Tienmen Hsien of Hupeh Province, and Lushan and Shangchiu Hsien of Honan, used such means as story-telling, quick-beat songs, cartoons, and blackboard newspapers to carry out the marriage-law publicity through rural theatrical troupes and winter civilian schools. The women of Linshanhu Chu, Huangkang Hsien, incorporated their own sufferings from feudal marital oppression into songs to be publicized everywhere in order to induce the women to rise up and struggle actively against the feudal marriage system.

In Lishan Hsien, Hupeh, and Wukang Hsien, Hunan, public trial rallies were called, with thousands of people present, in which criminals who were guilty of having murdered women were shot on the spot, while responsible persons of People's Governments and Democratic Women's Federations made speeches in which they exposed in concrete terms the crimes of the old marriage system. The educational value of this among the masses was very great. (Peking, numeral code, 10 Nov.)

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Land Reform: While not accorded comparable emphasis, violations of land-reform regulations are also apparent. Attention is centered on Szechwan and Yunnan, where resistance evidently is strongest. But the Tsinan radio reports that in only 38 percent of the villages in Shantung Province have the people received their land and property ownership certificates.

Due to lack of emphasis, propaganda, and intensive examination by the leading organs of some localities on the distribution of certificates, there are some cases of incorrect reports on land, inaccurate demarcations and corrections, and signs of extravagance in the villages. (Tsinan, Shantung Regional, 5 Nov.)

The Wuhan radio announces that more than 1,500 members of land-reform working teams have arrived in Hankow for land-reform work in Kiangsi, Kwangtung and Hunan. In the Wuhan area land reform is said to have been completed in a majority of the 1,200 hsiangs where it was started, and the second stage is being started. The objectives of this "second stage" seem to cover considerably more than land reform, as evidenced by the following description:

Anti-gangsterism, land rent reduction, Resist-America and Aid-Korea, and suppression of counterrevolutionaries: These activities are carried out on the successful foundation paved by the first stage. (Wuhan, Central-South China Regional, 11 Nov.)

Peking announces that the areas which are going to carry out land reform this winter and spring are "urgently in need" of people's tribunals so as smoothly to implement land reform and suppress counterrevolutionaries. Difficulties encountered previously are described as follows:

During last winter and spring in the rural districts where land reform was being carried out, various despicable and vicious means--such as armed raids, rumors created to confuse the peasant masses, the hiding of property, the killing of draft animals, arson and poisoning--were employed by counterrevolutionaries and lawless landlords to obstruct the development of the land-reform movement. According to incomplete statistics from 124 hsien of Central-South China the land-reform movement from last November to April resulted in the handling of 143,761 such cases in the people's tribunals.

During the land reform movement in Chienching Hsien, Hupei Province, 124 lawless landlords evacuated their property and resisted the struggle of the peasants. However, when the hsien people's tribunal held a public trial of four lawless landlords of the third chu, including Chang Kai-chun, sentencing them to death or imprisonment, the rest of the landlords in the hsien immediately handed over their hidden property. (Peking, numeral code, 14 Nov.)

In Yunnan Province, according to the Chungking radio, public trials were not so successful. A trial was held in July and four landlords were sentenced to death. Yet on 7 October another such trial was deemed necessary. In front of 20,000 spectators 43 landlords were sentenced for undermining land reform. "Some of these criminals were executed on the spot."

Chungking further reports that authorities in Neichiang, south Szechwan, are correcting mistakes of cadres in land reform. At Nanchung, Wusheng, Pengan, Hsichung, Tungchiang, and other places in north Szechwan, the People's Administrative Office found "small numbers" of landlords "who failed to reform themselves through labor, showed disobedience for control, openly threatened the farmers and wasted their land." Chao Lin, land reform committee chairman of the north Szechwan People's Administrative Office, issued a statement on 10 November calling on cadres to work harder and use the right emphasis:

He pointed out that experiences in the first and second stages of land reform in north Szechwan revealed that whenever the political aim was neglected, the landlords were not willing to give up, declined to work, spread rumors, and plotted to counterattack, while the peasants showed signs of lethargy, lacked the spirit for a long struggle, and were loosely organized among themselves. (Chungking, Southwest China Regional, 14 Nov.)

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Another version of the ideological framework that must accompany land reform is seen in another Chungking broadcast. Rural cadres in Tachu, Linshui and Liangshan Hsien see land reform completed in their hsien and thought their work also was completed. When the Party called upon them for further work they refused, thinking the revolution already was a success, thus illustrating that "education in patriotism was not closely coordinated with the land reform program."

COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES

Dairen broadcast the only report of direct action against counterrevolutionary activities. The announcement said that the cases exposed in May have been disposed of, with 10 persons executed and 12 given life terms.

In coordination with the American aggressors they constantly listened to the Voice of America, creating rumors to undermine implementation of the policies of the People's Government. However great were the attempts of these reactionaries, they could not escape the people's hands, and were given strict punishment. (Dairen, Dairen-Port Arthur Regional, 5 Nov.)

Despite absence of direct reports of action, there is evidence that the movement is still regarded as a threat. A Chinchow broadcast says one police office has organized "100 students and citizens" to carry out propaganda regarding the suppression of counterrevolutionary elements. A Shanghai exhibition on public security work opened 12 November with the aim of "influencing the masses to suppress counterrevolutionary elements." Chungking reported that in Kwetchow Province since 14 June, 1949 "mass accusation rallies" have been organized, and 10 percent of the counterrevolutionary cases had been disposed of by the end of or by the end of October, all of them in Chusi, Wuting and Kunming.

Chungking reports evidence of dissension among minority groups. It notes that spies of national minority groups in west Szechwan are being used in the "extermination of bandits." They serve as guides to the troops "in capturing and killing bandits among the minority groups."

CENTRALIZED CONTROL

Hiring and Firing: A tightening of central control over personnel in all State organs--which may reflect labor turnover difficulties--is seen in a new regulation by the People's Central Government transmitted in numeral code to the press. The regulation gives the Central Government direct authority over the appointment and dismissal of a large number of employees in the higher bracket. The Government Administrative Council is responsible for appointments and dismissals involving a much larger group, including chiefs and deputy chiefs of departments and bureaus, and government officials of provincial cities. In addition, one clause in the regulations gives the Government Administrative Council the right to appoint and dismiss "other work personnel not enumerated in the various paragraphs of this article." Special classes of workers remain under the Supreme People's Court, the Supreme Prosecutor's Office, the Central Education Committee, or the People's Revolutionary Military Committee, but the following clause is added:

"Summary dismissal of the personnel enumerated in Articles 2 and 3 may be made by an order issued by the Central People's Government, the Government Administrative Council, or the People's Revolutionary Military Committee." (Peking, numeral code, 7 Nov.)

Education: A tightening of central control over schools and colleges is suggested in a number of reports from Peking and the regional radios. At a meeting held 3-9 November, the Ministry of Education told presidents of engineering schools of the "serious inadequacies" of higher industrial education in coping with national industrial construction, "both with respect to quantity and quality." It was made clear that the 42,000 students in technical schools are far short of the number needed, and that these students "have not been sufficiently specialized in their fields." As reported in numeral code on 11 November, the necessary steps to be taken by the schools include: "Emphasis on short-term training during the next 5 to 10 years"; an alteration in the present distribution of teachers and equipment; and a tight control over expansion in each individual institution.

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According to a Hofei broadcast, the Second Normal Education Meeting of North Anhwei, starting 29 October was attended by cultural cadres as well as teachers, and it was agreed that "political studies should be given main attention in teacher training." A Mukden broadcast announced that the Education Department of the Northeast People's Government had adopted changes in the school system, "in accordance with central instructions." A Yangchow announcement said that the North Kiangsu Education Union had ordered all primary and middle school teachers to "strengthen their study of political theory and history of the Communist Party." The Education Department of the East China Military and Administrative Committee, according to a Shanghai broadcast, issued a directive compelling teachers of primary and junior high schools to subscribe to the NEW PIONEER, an organ aimed at leading working committees for boys' and girls' activities. A Dairen announcement said that the Bureau of Education and Culture had issued a directive to various schools and institutions regarding "scrutiny of thought."

A Peking broadcast said that at all rallies in Peking, reports had been made on the preliminary success of Peking and Tientsin teachers in "ridding themselves of erroneous thoughts. Further elaboration of this idea comes in a numeral code transmission telling of "ideological reform" among professors of higher institutions in Peking and Tientsin under the direction of studies committee. Some enlightening passages follow:

The studies committees in the various schools mobilized and enlightened the professors, and the responsible persons in many schools played the exemplary role of leading the others to join in the studies.

They all exposed many of their past muddled thoughts as evinced in the vagueness of their stands and the lack of distinction between ourselves and the enemy.

The students of the higher institutions of Peking and Tientsin have expressed great concern and enthusiasm in the professors' ideological reform studies. The students of many schools made their suggestions and expressed their hopes to the professors, and helped the professors in the latter's introspection and criticism. Undergraduates of the Peking Teachers College have been very happy at the progress made by the professors in their studies, and have been propagandizing their progress and encouraging the professors by loudspeakers and wall newspapers. (Peking, numeral code, 12 Nov.)

Special Ideological Training-Adults: A new directive issued by Minister of Education Ma Hsu-lun to various major administrative districts outlines plans for this year's winter schools for adults. One section of the directive reads as follows:

In the course of the winter studies in all parts of the country the peasant masses should be given popular and intensive education on Resisting-America, Aiding-Korea, and on patriotism, so as to push the increased production and conservation drive and the signing of patriotic pacts. After local circumstances are considered the peasants should be given education on land reform, democratic reforms, mutual aid in production, marriage laws and other topics. This is the main task to be done in the winter studies program this year. The cultural content of the winter studies should harmonize with the political education as much as possible, and every attempt should be made to prevent and correct the tendency simply to emphasize cultural studies, and neglect political and current events education. (Peking, numeral code, 12 Nov.)

The directive says that teachers in these winter schools shall consist of chu and village cadres of local organizations, publicity members, and "primary school teachers of a higher political level who are more capable."

A Foochow broadcast warns that at Changlo the total number of students in peasant and winter schools was reduced because of "insufficient publicity," with the implication that such a situation must not be tolerated.

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Another numeral code transmission of 12 November indicates the progress being made by the Central People's Government in ideological indoctrination by announcing that theatrical workers throughout China actively carry out propaganda in the drives to Resist-America, Aid-Korea, suppress counterrevolutionary and enforce land reform.

Special Ideological Training-Children: Indoctrination of children and youth received some attention during the Soviet anniversary celebrations. In a letter from Chang Hsuan, China Youth Corps leader returned from Moscow, it was pointed out that the "rising standard of material enjoyment and culture in the Soviet Union demonstrates Soviet superiority."

On 5 November the CHINA YOUTH newspaper was launched in Peking to "coordinate the education of young children with Marxism-Leninism and Maoism." The paper covers current events, cultural and scientific knowledge, activities of the youth corps, fables, stories, comics and pictures. It is intended for children of the fourth grade of primary school or higher. The reference to "Maoism" is typical in that China's ideological contributions are usually paralleled with those of Marx, Lenin, and Stalin. However, the actual word "Maoism" is unusual.

KOREAN WAR BURDEN

Indicating the strains caused by the fighting in Korea, a Mukden broadcast reports that the 1,000 new houses to be completed in the city by the middle of November will be used primarily to care for "dependents of martyrs and soldiers"; other persons with "real problems in housing" will come second. In Pengpu, according to a Hefei broadcast, a preferential service drive solved the problem of disabled soldiers and their dependents by providing care for them. Foochow reports that relatives of Chinese volunteer troops in Korea sent many letters to the soldiers reporting on the care given them by the "Government and people of all circles."

Foochow also hints at official concern over health in an announcement that 360 health personnel have joined the People's Liberation Army. It follows this by announcing a meeting in Haicheng Hsien 1 November to discuss "problems regarding mobilization of health personnel to participate in national defense work."

HEALTH PROBLEMS

Fear of recurring epidemics and insufficient facilities to cope with them are reflected in a Hefei announcement that a group of health workers has reached Pengpu from Shanghai and is setting up miniature hospitals in the water-conservancy areas. A second group will soon leave Shanghai for north Anhwei to be responsible for health work in the engineering and dredging areas of the Fouyang Special Administrative Area.

Concessions to foreign medical personnel are apparent in a Hangchow account of official procedures which apply to the taking over of American-subsidized hospitals in Shaohsing, Chinhua, Yuyao, Ningpo and Wuhsing. The announcement says Chinese members of the staff are to keep their positions and salaries, and foreign employees who do not "show any sign of reactionary behavior" are to be invited to retain their places. The same trend is apparent in the speech of Minister of Public Health Li Te-chuan at the Third Session of the First Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference on 31 October. Li asserted that health work is being developed by "stressing prevention work, serving the workers, peasants and troops, and uniting practitioners of Chinese and Western medicine."

Li's speech dwelt upon the difficulties facing China in solving her health problems:

"Due to the overly small number of doctors at present in China, and to solve the pressing need for large numbers of cadres," a change in the curricula of medical schools is suggested "to promote the system of specialized and prior studies in higher medical schools so as to reduce the study years. Preliminary steps have been made."

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CENTRAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

A aural code transmission of 10 November announces that a "comfort group of the Central People's Government" arrived at Kalgan by train and will proceed to the "disaster-stricken areas of Chahar, Suiyuan and Inner Mongolia." The nature of the disaster is not explained. The group consists of 50 persons, led by Peng Tse-min, Vice Chairman of the Political and Legal Commission of the Central People's Government, and Wu Hsin-ku, Vice Minister of the Interior. Apparently the help to be given the disaster-stricken area will consist of "organizing the people to overcome the calamities by resorting to production, self-help and mutual aid." The Central People's Government also seems to be as much interested in next year's production as in present relief for the stricken people, as plans are "to coordinate relief work with anti-disaster-prevention work in preparation for next year's production."

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